

IN THE CLAIMS

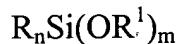
Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

9. (New) A process for surface pretreatment, comprising the following steps in the order shown:

(a) providing a clean metal surface which is aluminum or an aluminum alloy;  
(b) applying a composition comprising an organosilane to the clean metal surface to form a coated surface; and  
(c) exposing the coated surface to a laser which produces an elevated temperature on the coated surface.

10. (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the organosilane has the general formula I:



wherein

R is a reactive or non-reactive organic group;

R<sup>1</sup> is alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, or acyl;

n is 1 or 2; and

m is 2 or 3, provided that n + m = 4.

11. (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the composition is a solution containing from 1 to 10 % by weight of the organosilane in water and/or an organic solvent.

12. (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the composition further comprises a carboxylic acid and/or a nonionic wetting agent.

13. (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the metal surface is cleaned by degreasing with an organic solvent.

14. (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the laser is a non-focussed laser.

15. (New) A process according to claim 10, wherein R is alkyl, phenyl, vinyl, acrylatoalkyl, glycidyloxyalkyl, wherein alkyl means C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl.

*S* 16. (New) A process according to claim 10, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkoxyalkyl, or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> acyl

*a* 17. (New) A process according to claim 16, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is methyl, ethyl, methoxyethyl, or acetoxy.

18. (New) A process according to claim 16, further comprising the step of bonding the coated and lased metal surface to a second surface with an adhesive.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100